

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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1. A communication system including a mobile station sending a plurality of uplink radio link control data blocks to a base station in an uplink temporary block flow, and receiving a plurality of downlink radio link control data blocks from the base station in a downlink temporary block flow, comprising:

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a protocol control unit within the base station, having a base station medium access control layer sending an identifier during setup of the downlink temporary block flow, and sending an uplink state flag indicating channel availability in a first one of the plurality of downlink radio link control data blocks; and

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a GPRS/EDGE subsystem within the mobile station, having a mobile station medium access control layer receiving the identifier and the uplink state flag, and sending uplink data in a first one of the plurality of uplink radio link control data blocks to the base station in response to the uplink state flag indicating channel availability, wherein the base station medium access control layer sends a directed acknowledgement in a subsequent one of the plurality of downlink radio link control data blocks in response to receipt of the uplink data from the mobile station, and the mobile station sends uplink data in a second one of the plurality of uplink radio link control data blocks in response to the directed acknowledgement.

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